



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

FRIDAY APRIL 14, 2006
VOL. 53 NO. 45

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices in the major terminal markets were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. However, the trade sentiment was usually no better than steady to about steady at current price levels. Demand into all channels was light to moderate with best movement into fast food outlets. Supplies of all sizes were adequate to ample with heavier weights in the longest position. WOGS were in a better balance, but still remain available. In the parts structure, demand was light to moderate. Availability of most parts, although in a better position, were fully sufficient for trade needs. In production areas, live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to heavy, mostly desirable. Some plants are closed Friday or Monday for the holiday.

Preliminary report Prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 17-APR-2006 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

| AREAS | MAJORITY | RANGE | WTD AVG | LOADS |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------|-------|
| Delivered to First Receivers | | | | |
| Chicago | 46.00-49.00 | 41.00-68.00 | 48.08 | 24 |
| New York | 48.00-51.00 | | | |
| Los Angeles | 75.00 | | | |

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

| | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|----|
| Mississippi | 65.00-68.00 | 54.00-72.00 | 66.59 | 87 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|----|

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 67.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

| LOADS | RANGE | PRELIM. WTD. AVG. |
|-------|-------------|-------------------|
| 926 | 63.47-70.00 | 67.37 |

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice-packed parts:

| ITEM | WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND) | VOLUME (000 POUNDS) |
|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| LINE RUN TENDERS | 137.50 | 1,243 |
| BREASTS - B/S | 111.50 | 5,731 |
| BREASTS - WHOLE | 58.50 | 1,332 |
| THIGH MEAT - B/S | 70.50 | 1,098 |
| LEG QUARTERS | 16.50 | 8,664 |
| WINGS | 85.00 | 2,952 |

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

MIDWEST Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into Chicago were unchanged. Whole fryer trade sentiment was mostly steady. Offers of additional whole fryers were adequate to fully adequate for the lackluster buyer needs. Retail demand was only fair as traditional holiday items provide the best interest. Distributive movement was light to fairly good demand, best into fast food channels with features. Floor stocks were adequate to occasionally long. Sizes desirable. Parts supplies were adequate with boneless skinless breasts, small wings, leg quarters and tenders in the tightest position. The market tone was steady to fully steady on breast items and generally steady for the balance.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was steady to about steady. Retail demand was light to fair with market conditions being monitored for further developments, due in part to down time. Supplies of all sizes were more than sufficient to handle trade needs. Processing schedules were mixed with some plants down or running lighter schedules due to the holiday. In the parts structure, movement was mostly light to fair. Supplies of all items were in a full range of balanced to readily available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at generally desirable weights.

WESTERN The preliminary majorities were at unchanged prices for next week. Trade sentiment was about steady. Early trading reported at mainly unchanged prices. Buying activity was fair at best with some improvement expected, after the holiday. Retailer demand was overall fair. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. Parts were steady to firm with boneless breast, leg meat and thigh meat showing some strength.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was light to moderate for weekend business. Offerings of all sizes were adequate to ample with heavier sizes noted as being more available. Retail and distributive movement was light to fair, best where features were planned. The market tone was about steady. In the parts complex, most items were fully adequate for trade needs. Although, breast items were in a slightly better position. Dark meat cuts and wings were sufficient for current needs.

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light and unaggressive. Seller offerings were fully adequate to ample for both immediate and early next week delivery. Live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to heavy. Processor schedules were very light as several plants closed in observance of the religious holiday. Other plants are slated to close Monday. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 48 to 65 cents. Trade sentiment was no better than steady. In the parts complex, buyer interest was light and spotty; offerings were generally noted as more than adequate for current inquiry.

***BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA**

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| RANGE | 45-66 |
| WEIGHTED AVERAGE | (A) |
| NO. OF BOXES | (A) |
| CUMULATIVE | (A) |
| | 04/10/06-04/14/06 |
| | 04/11/05-04/15/05 |
| NO. OF BOXES | (A) |
| | 04/10/06-04/14/06 |
| | 04/11/05-04/15/05 |
| (A) Not reported to avoid disclosing individual operations. | |

APR 13

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APR 14

| ITEM | POUNDS | | | | WTD AVG | POUNDS | | | | WTD AVG | WEEKLY WTD AVG |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------|-------|------------|-------------------------|--------------|----------|---------|------------|-------------------|
| | (000) | RANGE | MAJORITY | | | (000) | RANGE | MAJORITY | WTD AVG | (000) | |
| BREAST - B/S | 659 | 90.00-155.00 | 95-100 | 99.19 | | 614 | 90.00-113.00 | 95-100 | 104.21 | 3,291 | 100.23 |
| TENDERLOINS | 213 | 92.00-140.00 | 94-100 | 96.55 | | 188 | 92.00-140.00 | 94-100 | 96.52 | 925 | 96.30 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | | | TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT | | | | 340 | 56.18 |
| FRONT HALVES | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | | | TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT | | | | 305 | 54.16 |
| LEGS | 188 | 17.00-38.00 | 18-20 | 20.23 | | 28 | 17.00-38.00 | 18-20 | 28.71 | 785 | 20.32 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 512 | 12.00-18.00 | 14 | 14.09 | | 512 | 13.00-16.00 | 14 | 14.05 | 2,130 | 13.91 |
| LEG QUARTERS (4/10) | 1,140 | 14.00-25.00 | 15-16 | 16.93 | | 1,020 | 14.00-25.00 | 15-16 | 17.84 | 5,305 | 16.95 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 324 | 68.00-93.00 | - | 68.83 | | 275 | 68.00-93.00 | - | 88.65 | 1,434 | 73.94 |
| WINGS (CUT) | 320 | 86.00-96.00 | 92-95 | 91.50 | | 297 | 86.00-95.00 | 92-95 | 91.93 | 1,387 | 91.33 |
| DRUMSTICKS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | | | TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT | | | | 358 | 27.81 |
| THIGHS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | | | TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT | | | | 224 | 29.65 |
| B/S THIGHS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | | | TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT | | | | 422 | 63.79 |

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR APR 13, 2006 -- F.O.B. DOCK.

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR APR 14, 2006 -- F.O.B. DOCK.

| RANGE | TODAY'S AVERAGE | RANGE | TODAY'S AVERAGE | 5-DAY AVERAGE |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 33.00 - 38.00 | 35.05 | 33.50 - 37.00 | 35.34 | 34.09 |

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS - Trucklot buying activity was only fair for weekend needs. Offerings of breast items were in fairly good balance and clearing satisfactorily. Dark meat cuts and wings were at least sufficient for current needs. Overall, floor stocks were fully adequate for trade needs. Movement through retail and distributive channels was fair to moderate. The market tone was generally steady on most items.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

APR 13

CURRENT NEG**WTD**

| ITEM | TRADING* | AVG** | VOL/LBS |
|----------------------------|----------|-------|---------|
| BREAST - B/S | 100-105 | 96.55 | 725,160 |
| TENDERLOINS | 95-100 | 93.42 | 213,800 |
| BREAST - WITH RIBS | 56-57 | 64.55 | 103,600 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 56 | 59.90 | 90,000 |
| LEGS | 29-30 | 27.33 | 213,000 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 14-15 | 16.63 | 307,480 |
| DRUMSTICKS | 20-21 | 22.58 | 97,440 |
| THIGHS | 23-24 | 30.68 | 54,240 |
| B/S THIGHS | 71-72 | 66.91 | 118,240 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 70-71 | 69.50 | 275,360 |
| BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED) | 10-12 | 11.76 | 45,880 |
| LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS) | 25-30 | 26.52 | 27,960 |
| GIZZARDS (HEARTS) | 45-50 | 48.94 | 18,680 |

CURRENT NEG**WTD**

| ITEM | TRADING* | AVG** | VOL/LBS | WTD AVG | VOL/LBS |
|----------------------------|----------|-------|---------|---------|-----------|
| BREAST - B/S | 100-105 | 96.29 | 265,440 | 95.80 | 2,847,800 |
| TENDERLOINS | 95-100 | 82.13 | 71,800 | 91.57 | 826,600 |
| BREAST - WITH RIBS | 56-57 | 66.22 | 73,200 | 65.12 | 409,440 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 56 | 58.50 | 54,000 | 59.46 | 407,440 |
| LEGS | 29-30 | 32.88 | 91,600 | 27.19 | 1,117,340 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 14-15 | 18.62 | 730,427 | 17.73 | 2,222,971 |
| DRUMSTICKS | 20-21 | 25.78 | 107,800 | 22.94 | 628,470 |
| THIGHS | 23-24 | 32.04 | 45,720 | 31.50 | 271,990 |
| B/S THIGHS | 71-72 | 63.80 | 65,360 | 64.72 | 575,860 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 70-71 | 69.75 | 206,880 | 68.88 | 1,223,320 |
| BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED) | 10-12 | 11.69 | 21,600 | 11.59 | 137,280 |
| LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS) | 25-30 | 27.63 | 20,280 | 26.34 | 98,920 |
| GIZZARDS (HEARTS) | 45-50 | 48.96 | 30,000 | 48.15 | 99,400 |

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

| | ESTIMATED | | ACTUAL | | AVG WT | | ACTUAL | | AVG WTS | |
|----------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | (1,000) | (1,000) | (1,000) | (1,000) | (1,000) | (1,000) | (1,000) | (1,000) | (1,000) | (1,000) |
| Alabama | 04/14 | 04/13 | 04/12 | 04/11 | 04/12 | 04/11 | 04/07 | 04/05 | | |
| Arkansas | 3,784 | 4,043 | 3,929 | 3,890 | 5.24 | 5.38 | 4,591 | 5.35 | | |
| Delmarva | 4,808 | 5,279 | 5,284 | 5,286 | 5.24 | 5.34 | 5,704 | 5.18 | | |
| KY-LA-TN | 1,759 | 2,301 | 2,319 | 2,559 | 5.91 | 5.82 | 2,515 | 5.76 | | |
| Mississippi | 2,162 | 2,259 | 2,237 | 2,068 | 5.09 | 4.87 | 2,224 | 4.93 | | |
| North Carolina | 2,696 | 2,682 | 2,498 | 2,987 | 5.44 | 5.80 | 3,134 | 5.79 | | |
| Texas | 2,723 | 2,588 | 2,499 | 2,338 | 6.87 | 6.64 | 3,295 | 6.84 | | |
| Total | 2,590 | 2,579 | 2,465 | 2,210 | 5.28 | 5.27 | 2,494 | 5.29 | | |
| Mon-Fri | 20,522 | 21,731 | 21,231 | 21,093 | 5.52 | 5.56 | 23,957 | 5.54 | | |
| Saturday | 106,104(A) | | | | | | 109,738 (A) | | | |

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 14-Apr-06 and 15-Apr-06 is estimated to be 30,703,000 head down 14.60 percent from a week ago and down -9.69 percent from a year ago.
(Last week 35,950,000, last year 33,996,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 15-Apr-06 is estimated to be 154,017,000 head down 5.28 percent from a week ago, and down 2.54 percent from a year ago. (Last week 162,595,000, last year 158,035,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

| | RANGE |
|------------------|--------|
| FRESH FRYERS | 94-98 |
| ROASTERS 4# & UP | 97-105 |
| HENS UNDER 5# | - |
| HENS OVER 5# | 65-73 |
| DUCKS | - |
| RABBITS WHOLE | - |
| CUT UP | - |

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

| | RANGE |
|------------------|------------------|
| FRESH FRYERS | ICE PACK 89-103 |
| ROASTERS 4# & UP | DRY PACK 108-114 |
| HENS OVER 5# | ICE PACK 100 |
| DUCKS | DRY PACK 111-118 |
| | ICE PACK 88-102 |
| | DRY PACK 102-109 |
| | 185-190 |

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 01-Apr-06 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning
Food service
4.20 Lbs. & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs. 5.26 Lbs. & Up

| | -----THOUSANDS----- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------|---------|
| Head | 29,243 | 18,392 | 56,528 |
| Avg Weight | 3.59 | 4.66 | 6.35 |
| % of total /1 | 28% | 18% | 54% |
| Comparisons | | | |
| Last week | 30,065 | 16,890 | 53,424 |
| Avg Weight | 3.73 | 4.83 | 6.44 |
| % of total /1 | 30% | 17% | 53% |
| Same week, yr ago /2 | 33,681 | 19,740 | 50,865 |
| Avg Weight | 3.75 | 4.75 | 6.28 |
| % of total /1 | 32% | 19% | 49% |
| To date/2006 | 357,960 | 235,368 | 703,684 |
| To date/2005 | 357,420 | 274,013 | 614,955 |

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding. /2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION (Preliminary)

| W/E 08-APR-2006 | YOUNG CHICKENS | LIGHT HENS | HEAVY HENS | TOTAL HENS | DUCKS |
|-----------------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------|
| | -----THOUSANDS----- | | | | |
| Head | 162,595 | 1,185 | 1,552 | 2,737 | 574 |
| Avg Wt | 5.34 | 3.30 | 8.14 | 6.04 | 6.78 |
| Last week | 161,822 | 1,166 | 1,433 | 2,599 | 485 |
| Same wk yr ago | 157,429 | 1,740 | 1,314 | 3,054 | 501 |
| Avg Wt | 5.21 | 3.31 | 7.95 | 5.31 | 6.80 |
| To-date/2006 | 2,251,168 | 16,948 | 20,204 | 37,152 | 7,123 |
| To-date/2005 | 2,189,629 | 21,042 | 18,412 | 39,454 | 7,103 |

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 163.5 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 164.6 million head, or 1.1 million more than estimated available.

ESTIMATED U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/ FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON

| WEEK ENDING | MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED | MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE | PCT | AVG WT |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------|--------|
| March 4 | 160.3 | 163.4 | 98% | 5.34 |
| 11 | 162.6 | 164.2 | 99% | 5.32 |
| 18 | 164.3 | 164.3 | 100% | 5.31 |
| 25 | 164.1 | 164.9 | 100% | 5.36 |
| April 1 | 163.8 | 164.9 | 99% | 5.28 |
| 8 | 164.6 | 163.5 | 101% | 5.34 |
| Year to date | 2278.6 | 2286.3 | 100% | |
| April 15 | | 163.2 | | |
| 22 | | 164.4 | | |

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

Under Federal Inspection

| W/E | 04/15/06 | 04/08/06 | % CHG | 04/16/05 | % CHG |
|----------|----------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
| Broilers | 154,017 | 162,595* | -5.28 | 158,035* | -2.54 |
| Cattle | 605 | 636 | -05 | 590* | +03 |
| Hogs | 1,941 | 1,998 | -03 | 1,990* | -02 |

*ACTUAL

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 10-APR-2006

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

| ORIGIN | FROZEN | FRESH |
|-------------|---------|---------|
| LONG ISLAND | 151-155 | 157-161 |
| MOSTLY | | |
| MIDWEST | 132-142 | 133-143 |
| MOSTLY | | |

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED, CENTS PER POUND

| | RANGE | MOSTLY |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX) | 46.00-56.00 | 52.00-53.00 |
| VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX) | 58.00-86.00 | 71.00-73.00 |

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

| | |
|--------|-------------|
| 12 OZ. | 63.36-72.90 |
| 14 OZ. | 69.84-81.00 |
| 16 OZ. | 74.88-89.10 |

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices were unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady. Demand was moderate to fairly good. Supplies were adequate to fully adequate for current needs. Schedules were full time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$3.50-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.45-1.95, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$0.50-0.65, livers at \$0.95-1.70, and feet at \$1.00-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 10-APR-2006

| ORIGIN | FROZEN | FRESH |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| MIDWEST AND OTHERS | 126-146 | 128-148 |

GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION - DATE OF AUCTION: 04-11-06

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

| Prices paid per pound, except as noted. | RANGE |
|---|------------------|
| Muscovy Ducks - Drakes | .85 - .90 |
| Muscovy Ducks - Hens | .85 - .90 |
| Red Fowl 4-5 LBS | .30 - .35 |
| Red Fowl 5-6 LBS | .40 - .50 |
| Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS | .40 - .45 |
| Crossbred Roosters 4-6 LBS | .60 - .80 |
| Crossbred Roosters 7-11 LBS | .50 - .70 |
| Guinea Fowl | 1.90 - 2.10ea. |
| Banty Roosters | 1.50 - 2.00ea. |
| Banty Hens | 1.00 - 1.25ea. |
| Leghorn Roosters | 1.00 - 1.25ea. |
| Silkies | 1.75 - 2.00ea. |
| Pigeons | 3.00 - 3.25ea. |
| White Pigeons | 4.00 - 5.00ea. |
| Rabbits 4-6 LBS | 1.05 - 1.50 |
| Rabbits 6-9 LBS | 1.00 - 1.30 |
| Bunnies | 5.00 - 12.00ea. |
| Guinea Pigs | 3.50 - 5.00ea. |
| Goats | 45.00 - 55.00ea. |
| Kid Goats | 35.00 - 40.00ea. |
| Doves | 4.50 - 6.00ea. |
| Total Coops Sold | 825 |

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Trading was too few to report for heavy cannery; unchanged on lights when compared to previous week. Offerings of light cannery were fully sufficient for the generally light to fair at best demand; at least adequate to fully adequate for heavy cannery with most available supplies being used internally. Demand was light to fair. Processing schedules were less than normal with some operations down in Observance of Good Friday. The undertone was steady at best.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

| | |
|---|--|
| LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) | HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) |
| 18-28 MAJORITY 23-24 | TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT |

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

| | |
|---|--|
| LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) | HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS) |
| 20-29 MAJORITY 24.5-25.5 | TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT |

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HENS Prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to moderate, best into rendering operations. Offerings of spent hens were at least adequate for current needs. Processing schedules were less than normal as some operations are down in Observance of Good Friday. Trade sentiment was mostly steady.

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| | RANGE | MAJORITY |
| REMOVAL COST | 4-12 | 9-10 |

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HENS Disposal costs were TFEWR. Offerings were fully adequate. Schedules were reduced. Finished sales were fair. Trade sentiment was generally steady.

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | RANGE | MAJORITY |
| REMOVAL COST | TOO FEW TO REPORT | |

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HENS Removal prices ranged unchanged to 1 cent lower. Demand was light to mostly moderate with offerings fully adequate to ample as many producers attempt to move spent hens ahead of previously scheduled slaughter dates. Schedules normal. Trade sentiment steady.

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| | RANGE | MAJORITY |
| REMOVAL COST | 4-10 | 5-8 |

WEST COAST LIGHT Plant worked reduced holiday schedules. Offerings were generally adequate.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 17-APR-06

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading levels were too few to report. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were good. Schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | RANGE | MAJORITY |
| AT FARM BUYER LOADING | TOO FEW TO REPORT | |

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was fair to moderate at best for the mostly adequate offerings of spent hens. Processing schedules for next week were noted as normal to less than normal. The undertone was about steady.

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | RANGE | MAJORITY |
| AT FARM BUYER LOADING | TOO FEW TO REPORT | |
| AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING | TOO FEW TO REPORT | |
| FOB PLANT | TOO FEW TO REPORT | |

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS, POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES

| | | | |
|----------------|----------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Washington, DC | Voice | (202)720-6911 | Mike Sheats, |
| | Fax | (202)720-2403 | Chief |
| Atlanta, GA | Voice | (404)562-5850 | Johnny Freeman, |
| | Fax | (404)562-5875 | Officer-In-Charge |
| Jackson, MS | Voice | (601)965-4662 | Gary Brown, |
| | Fax | (601)359-1175 | Southern States Area Supervisor |
| Des Moines, IA | Voice | (515)284-4471 | Mary L. Adkins, |
| | Fax | (515)284-4468 | Officer-In-Charge |
| | Recorded | (515)284-4545 | |
| Long Beach, CA | Voice | (562)388-7337 | Jim Derby, |
| | Fax | (562)432-8295 | Officer-in-Charge |
| | Recorded | (213)534-1335 | |